

Fall fortune forecast: Carson City dollars get set for a big sale

By Roger Boye

THE OLD Carson City silver dollars in government vaults have moved a giant step closer to the sales block.

Congress has approved, and President Carter has signed, a bill authorizing the General Services Administration (GSA) to sell the 978,000 coins minted during the late 19th Century in Carson City, Nev.

GSA executives are now piecing together plans for a national silver dollar sale that could begin next autumn. Details probably won't be announced until August, at the earliest.

The dollars, most dated 1883 and 1884, are part of 2.9 million silver dollar hoard discovered in a Treasury vault in 1964. About 2 million of the coins were sold to collectors earlier this decade in a series of sales that was discontinued when the market became saturated.

Collectors believe the remaining coins are worth from \$15 to \$60 each.

IF YOU WANT to know the value of your old coins or currency, take them to the Morton Grove Coin Club's annual show April 29.

Club members, using the latest reference books, will appraise any numismatic item, free of charge. However, the show's organizers request: "No entire collections or large accumulations, please."

In addition to the evaluation service, several coin dealers will be present to buy and sell coins, and some coins will be on display. Show hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, 5300 W. Touhy Av., Skokie. Admission is free and door prizes will be awarded.

AGAIN THIS YEAR, the American Numismatic Association (ANA) is providing scholarships for persons, age 11 to 17, to attend the ANA Summer Seminar in Colorado Springs.

Scholarships pay for round-trip airfare, room and board, and tuition for the June 24-30 seminar. The number of scholarships depends on contributions received by the ANA.

For an application form, write ANA Gov. Florence M. Schook, P.O. Box 2014, Livonia, Mich. 48154. The deadline for completed applications is May 15.

Participants will learn about ancient coins, coin photography, detection of altered and counterfeit coins, and other important hobby-related subjects.

THE ANA IS asking coin collectors to promote the numismatics hobby during the next seven days, National Coin Week. If some of your coin collecting friends become boastful this week, be forgiving. It happens only once a year.